

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. Apparatus for remote inspection of emergency equipment in installed positions at
2 one or a system of emergency equipment stations, said apparatus comprising:

3 a detector located at a emergency equipment station for detection of the presence of
4 an obstruction to viewing of or access to the emergency equipment station; and

5 an electronic circuit in communication between the detector and a remote central
6 station for issue of a signal to the remote central station upon detection of the obstruction to
7 viewing of or access to the emergency equipment station.

1 2. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 1, wherein the emergency equipment
2 station includes a fire extinguisher station.

1 3. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 1, wherein the emergency equipment
2 station includes a fire alarm pull station.

1 4. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 1, wherein the emergency equipment
2 station includes a defibrillator station with a portable defibrillator.

1 5. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 1, wherein the emergency equipment
2 station includes an emergency lighting station and the obstruction to viewing acts as an
3 obstruction to operation for illumination.

1 6. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 1, wherein the detector initiates a
2 signal from the electronic circuit to the remote central station upon detection of the
3 obstruction.

1 7. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 6, wherein the signal includes a
2 wireless signal.

1 8. The apparatus of remote inspection of claim 1, wherein the obstruction is disposed
2 within a range of about 6 inches to about 10 feet from the emergency equipment station.

1 9. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 1, wherein the detector initiates a
2 signal from the electronic circuit to another emergency equipment station upon detection of
3 the obstruction.

1 10. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 9, wherein the signal includes a
2 wireless signal.

1 11. The apparatus of remote inspection of claim 1, wherein the detector comprises a
2 proximity sensor.

1 12. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 11, wherein the proximity sensor
2 comprises an acoustic signal transmitter and an acoustic signal detector.

1 13. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 11, wherein the proximity sensor
2 comprises an ultrasonic transducer.

1 14. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 11, wherein the proximity sensor
2 comprises an electromagnetic signal detector.

1 15. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 11, wherein the proximity sensor
2 comprises an electromagnetic signal transmitter and an electromagnetic signal detector.

1 16. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 11, wherein the proximity sensor
2 comprises an optical signal transmitter and an optical signal detector.

1 17. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 11, wherein the proximity sensor
2 comprises an infrared signal transmitter and an infrared signal detector.

1 18. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 1, wherein the electronic circuit is
2 further adapted to issue a signal to the remote central station and to receive another signal
3 from the remote central station.

1 19. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 18, wherein the issued signal
2 includes a wireless signal.

1 20. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 1, wherein the electronic circuit
2 further comprises a wireless signal transmitter for transmitting a wireless signal to the remote
3 central station.

1 21. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 1, wherein the electronic circuit
2 further comprises a wireless signal receiver for receiving a wireless signal from the remote
3 central station.

1 22. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 1, wherein the electronic circuit
2 further comprises a receiver for receiving a signal from another emergency equipment
3 station.

1 23. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 1, wherein the electronic circuit
2 further comprises a receiver for receiving a wireless signal from another emergency
3 equipment station.

1 24. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 1, wherein the electronic circuit
2 further comprises a transmitter for transmitting a signal to another emergency equipment
3 station.

1 25. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 1, wherein the electronic circuit
2 further comprises a transmitter for transmitting a wireless signal to another emergency
3 equipment station.

1 26. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 1, wherein the emergency
2 equipment station includes an emergency egress station.

1 27. The apparatus for remote inspection of claim 1, wherein the detector is included
2 in a housing separated from the emergency equipment.